



6712-01

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-XXXX; FRS 16541]

Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collections. Comments are requested concerning: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees. The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

DATES: Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Nicole Ongele, FCC, via email PRA@fcc.gov and to Nicole.ongele@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information about the information collection, contact Nicole Ongele, (202) 418-2991.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-XXXX.

Title: Application for the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and the Connect USVI Fund Stage 2 Fixed Support.

Form Number: FCC Form 5634.

Type of Review: New information collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 20 unique respondents; 30 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 2 - 80 hours.

Frequency of Response: One-time and annual reporting requirements.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in 47 U.S.C. 151-154, 214, and 254.

Total Annual Burden: 1,620 hours.

Total Annual Cost: No Cost.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: No impact(s).

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: Although some information collected in FCC Form 5634 will be made available for routine public inspection, the Commission will withhold certain information collected in FCC Form 5634 from routine public inspection. Specifically, the Commission will treat certain financial and technical information submitted in FCC Form 5634 as confidential. However, if a request for public inspection for this technical or financial information is made under 47 CFR § 0.461, and the applicant has any objections to disclosure, the applicant will be notified and will be required to justify continued confidential treatment. To the extent that an applicant seeks to have other information collected in FCC Form 5634 or during the post-selection review process withheld from public inspection, the applicant may request confidential treatment pursuant to 47 CFR § 0.459.

Needs and Uses: The Commission is requesting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for this new information collection. In the *Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund Order*, the Commission comprehensively reformed the high-cost program within the universal service fund to focus support on networks capable of providing advanced, hardened voice and broadband services in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands (collectively, the Territories). *Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and the Connect USVI Fund*, WC Dockets Nos. 18-143 et al., Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration, 34 FCC Rcd 9109 (*PR-USVI Order*). As part of the *PR-USVI Order*, the Commission adopted a single-round competitive proposal process to award Stage 2 support for fixed telecommunications networks in the Territories (Stage 2 Competition).

For the Stage 2 Competition, service providers will compete to receive high-cost support of up to \$504.7 million in Puerto Rico and \$186.5 million in the U.S. Virgin Islands over 10 years to offer fixed voice and broadband services to all locations in the Territories in accordance with the framework adopted in the *PR-USVI Order*. The information collection requirements reported under this new collection are the result of the competitive proposal process adopted by the *PR-USVI Order* to award support to winning applicants. The Commission adopted various rules regarding the eligibility of service providers and the term of support. In addition, the Commission adopted rules to govern the competitive proposal process, which includes information to be submitted by parties as part of their competitive proposals and information that must be submitted by winning bidders seeking to become authorized to receive Stage 2 fixed support. The Commission concluded, based on its experience with awarding high-cost support and consistent with the record, that this single-stage competitive proposal process balances the need to collect information essential to awarding support and authorizing Stage 2 fixed support with administrative efficiency.

The Commission estimates that approximately 20 parties will apply and approximately 10 will be selected as winning applicants. The Commission is therefore seeking approval from the OMB

for the collection on FCC Form 5634 of the information, disclosures, and certifications adopted by the Commission. This information collection addresses the burdens associated with these requirements.

Federal Communications Commission.

Cecilia Sigmund,
Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Office of the Secretary.

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